FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Rex Wells

Date: July 3, 2002 **Phone:** 702-595-5033

BLM land auction rescheduled to July 30

Las Vegas -- The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will offer 216 acres of land for sale

July 30 at the Clark County Commission Chambers. The land was scheduled to be auctioned on May 14

but was postponed due to litigation. The appraised value of the 40 separate parcels to be offered is

nearly \$23 million. The parcels range in size from 1.25 acres to 30 acres in size. Starting prices range

from \$90,000 to \$4 million.

Under the 1998 Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act, BLM is authorized to sell or otherwise convey public land within the greater Las Vegas Valley. The act also authorizes the BLM Nevada to use the money raised for the purchase and protection of environmentally sensitive land in Nevada along with capital improvements at four federally recognized recreation and conservation areas surrounding Las Vegas.

The May 14 land sale is the sixth in a series of auctions and accompanying Internet land sales conducted by the BLM. Thus far, BLM has sold 2,571 acres for nearly \$125 million. That leaves nearly 20,000 acres still available. "All the revenue generated by the lands sales stays in Nevada," says BLM State Director Bob Abbey. "We have a unique opportunity in this state to make land available where it is needed for growth and use the revenue generated to protect environmentally sensitive areas along with providing more and better opportunities for outdoor recreation."

-- continued --

The land sales likewise help pay for needed infrastructure requirements, put money into the Nevada State Education Fund and pay for the purchase of property around Lake Tahoe. Thus far, BLM has paid \$10.6 million to the Nevada permanent school trust fund, \$18.4 million to the Southern Nevada Water Authority for infrastructure needs and reserved \$24.1 million for protection of Lake Tahoe.

This year the BLM proposes to spend \$117.5 million to acquire 33 environmentally sensitive properties in Nevada and make 44 capital improvements in Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, Lake Mead National Recreation Area and the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area. In addition the BLM proposes 18 park, trail and natural area development projects in Clark County.

Detailed information is available at www.nv.blm.gov.

Those wishing to view maps and appraisals, can do so at the Las Vegas Field Office, 4701 North Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Sealed bids will also be received up to July 29 at 4:15 p.m. at the BLM's Las Vegas Field Office. Sealed bids require 10 percent of the amount bid made payable to the Bureau of Land Management. All bidding begins at no less than appraised fair market value.

All parcels will be offered for competitive sale by oral auction beginning at 10 a.m. May 14 at Clark County Commission Chambers 500 South Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and continues throughout the auction. All oral bidders are required to register.

High bidders must deposit 20 percent of amount bid payable to the Bureau of Land Management on May 14. The remainder of the full bid price must be paid within 180 calendar days of the sale date.

Unsold parcels may be offered on the Internet on or about May 28.

#